

## **SEC 30-82.1. Use of Bows and Arrows or Crossbows**

(a) No person shall discharge an arrow from a bow or crossbow within the City except as provided in this Section.

(b) This section shall not apply to the use of a bow ten (10) pounds or less of draw rate with a blunt rubber-tipped arrow.

(c) This section shall not apply to properly located and constructed archery ranges approved by the Chief of Police.

(d) No minor under eighteen (18) years shall discharge an arrow from a bow or crossbow except upon a properly located, constructed, and approved archery range, and then only under the immediate supervision of an adult.

(e) Deer may be hunted within the City with bows and arrows or crossbows in accordance with the City's Urban Archery Program under the supervision of the Chief of Police and subject to the following conditions:

1. Hunters must abide by all applicable sections of the Virginia State Code, Virginia Hunting Regulations, and local ordinances.
2. Only antlerless deer may be taken.
3. Hunting with bow and arrow is permitted on any parcel which consists of three (3) acres or more, or parcels with concurrent boundaries which in combination equals three acres or more.
4. In addition to the urban archery season, archery deer hunting is also allowed during the early archery season, the general firearms deer season, and during the late archery season (i.e. from the first Saturday in October through the first Saturday in January).
5. It is unlawful to hunt except from a stand elevated a minimum of twelve (12) feet above the ground.
6. It shall be unlawful to carry firearms while hunting with bow and arrow during the special archery seasons, except as allowed under state law.
7. The hunter must obtain written permission from the landowner before hunting and shall carry a copy of the written permission at all times while hunting.
8. The property owner must obtain an annual Urban Archery permit from the Bedford Police Department.
9. No person shall discharge a bow from, over or across any street, sidewalk, alley, or public place, or towards any building or dwelling in such a manner that the arrow may strike it.
10. A hunter discharging a bow shall use reasonable care to ensure the arrow does not cross any property line and enter any property on which the hunter does not have permission to hunt. The discharge of an arrow across or over the boundaries of a property for which no permission has been given by the property owner shall create a rebuttable presumption that the use of the bow and arrow was not conducted with reasonable care.
11. Discharge of an arrow is permitted only in order to take a deer. No

discharge of an arrow shall be made toward any animal other than a deer.

12. The hunter is responsible for the disposition of the deer carcass.

13. If a deer which has been shot with an arrow leaves the property on which the hunter has permission to hunt, the hunter shall obtain permission from any property owner over which he/she must travel to retrieve the deer.

14. No person shall hunt deer in the City by use of dog or dogs.

(f) Any person who violates the provisions of this ordinance shall be guilty of a class 3 misdemeanor.